

BROWN UNIVERSITY Providence, Rhode Island 02912

Division of Biology and Medicine

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Harmon C. McAllister, Ph.D. Council for Tobacco Research - USA 900 Third Avenue New York, NY 10022

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Dear Colleague:

The Federation of American Societies for Experimental Biology (FASEB) offer intense week-long meetings that bring together scientists from different disciplines to review the latest progress in selected research areas and to chart new investigations. As chairman of the FASEB Summer Conference on "Protein Phosphatases" to be held 17-22 July 19941 am asking for your assistance in securing financial support for this meeting.

The 1994 meeting will be the third FASEB conference on Protein Phosphatases. The first, in 1988 was chaired by Nobel laureate Edmond H. Fischer and the second conference, in 1992, was chaired by Professor Shirish Shenolikar of Duke University Medical Center. Both conferences were held at the Copper Mountain Resort in Colorado and proved to be highly successful. The 1992 meeting attracted one of the largest number of applicants of any of the summer conferences and evaluations completed by the participants showed a high level of enthusiasm and satisfaction. Some eighty posters were presented in two groups, two days each, and the abstracts for the lectures and posters were distributed to all participants. Scientists from more than a dozen countries, from pharmaceutical and biotechnology companies, from research institutes and medical schools and universities were among the participants.

Recent advances have thrust protein phosphatases to the forefront of research in molecular and cell biology, toxicology, immunology, and cancer biology. Protein tyrosine phosphatases are involved in cell-cell adhesion and have been shown essential for T-cell response to antigen and for mitotic induction during the cell cycle. Protein serine/threonine phosphatases are involved in growth regulation, smooth muscle contraction, ligand-gated ion channel activity, as well as their traditional role in metabolic control. Even with many new developments we have not yet appreciated the full range of physiological processes under control of phosphatases.

It is now appreciated that protein phosphatases are the intracellular targets for immune suppressive agents such as cyclosporin, for hepatotoxins such as microcystin, and for tumor promoters such as okadaic acid and calyculin A. Protein phosphatases have not realized even a fraction of their potential as pharmacologic targets. Certainly the next few years will involve exciting discoveries, as the number of protein phosphatase cDNA passes 100. Your contribution of \$1500.00 to the 1992 Conference was most appreciated, and was recognized to the participants. Hope you can help us again. We will be happy to acknowledge your support to this group of leading investigators.

Sincerely yours,

David L. Brautigan, Ph.D.

Chairman, 1994 FASEB Summer Conference on Protein Phosphatases

Contributions should be made to

"FASEB - 1994 Protein Phosphatases" c/o D.L. Brautigan 1994 FASEB/Protein Phosphatases Brown University, Box G-J2 Providence, RI 02912

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